Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 5 is a flowchart of an embodiment of a license compliance routine 240 that may be stored in the monitor apparatus controller 97. The license compliance routine 240 may be performed to ensure physical or operational configuration compliance of gaming system 10 with one of the license parameter values sought to be controlled by the license. Referring to Fig. 5, the license compliance routine 240 may begin operation at block 242 during which a license verification application program interface (API) may be selected by an operator via input device of monitoring apparatus 22, for example the input device 91 described in connection with Fig. 3. Once selected, the license verification API allows the license authentication routine 220 described above to make a determination of license authenticity at block 220. If the license is determined to be non-authentic, a message indicating its non-authenticity, for example a "invalid license" message may be displayed on display terminal 90. In addition, the monitoring apparatus controller 97 may prevent the operator/licensee from reconfiguring any of the physical or operational configurations sought to be controlled by the license. If the license is determined to be authentic, a message indicating its authenticity, for example a an "valid license" message may be displayed on display terminal 90. In addition, the license parameter value for the selected license parameter is extracted from among the decrypted license parameter set at block 246. At block 248, the monitoring apparatus controller 97 compares the license parameter value for the selected license parameter to a corresponding real-time parameter value of the gaming system 10. If the corresponding real-time parameter value exceeds the license parameter value at block 250, then a message indicating that the license parameter value has been exceeded, for example a "license exceeded" message may be displayed on display terminal 90 at block 252. In addition, the monitoring apparatus controller 97 may prevent the operator/licensee from reconfiguring the physical or operational configuration sought to be controlled by the license parameter value for the selected license parameter at block 256 until such time as an upgraded license allowing the reconfiguration is obtained. If the corresponding real-time parameter value does not exceed the license parameter value at block 250, then a message indicating that the license parameter value has not been exceeded, for example a "license not exceeded" message may be displayed on display terminal 90. In addition, the monitoring apparatus controller 97 will allow the

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